



CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of the Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church—August 2023



Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church
100 Scotch Rd. Ewing, NJ 08628 609.882.3673 churchoffice@ewingpres.org



Our Vision Statement

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church is called to be a church where people seeking hope find the light and love of Christ and together joyfully serve the community with abiding love and purpose.

Our Mission Statement

As a church,

- we find and share the light and love of Christ in prayer, in worship, in fellowship, and in service.
- we welcome the rainbow of God's children, and we embrace our differences.
- we gather to develop relationships with God, with each other, and with the world.
- we are inspired by the Word of God as proclaimed through music, and our love of music strengthens our relationship with the community.
- we empower others to embody grace, mercy, justice, and peace guided by the light and love of Christ.
- we purposely demonstrate compassion, understanding, and generosity to others inspired by the love of Christ.
- we open our hearts and our doors to those seeking hope, wholeness, wellness, acceptance, and a place to be seen.

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Welcome Rev. Morgan Valencia King!

Our congregation unanimously voted in June to have Rev. Morgan Valencia King serve as the next pastor of Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church. He starts his ministry full time on Monday, September 11 and will start preaching on Sunday, September 17.

When asked what attracted him to ECPC, Morgan stated that he was very impressed with our Mission Statement and Mission Study, and the ways he sees us striving to live into that vision. He is excited to be a part of that vision and to start a long-term partnership with us.

Morgan is a 2014 graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, where he majored in Religious Studies. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2018. Upon graduation, Morgan was hired by Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City as Director of Engagement. In 2021, Morgan was ordained and hired as an Interim Pastor at Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, New York. During his time there, the congregation grew in membership and took on new initiatives.

We welcome our new minister next month!

All Are Invited to Coastlands Presbytery Meeting at Camp Johnsonburg on September 16

Support our new pastor, Rev. Morgan Valencia King, by attending his introduction to the Coastlands Presbytery's meeting on Saturday, September 16. Information is below. A representative group of members from Session will also be present.

When

Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM EST

[Add to Calendar](#)

Where

Camp Johnsonburg

822 Route 519, Johnsonburg, NJ 07825

822 Route 519, Johnsonburg, NJ 07825

Contact

Chris Renshaw

Presbytery of the Coastlands

908-783-1331

admin@coastlandspresbytery.org



The Presbytery of the Coastlands Registration

Welcome!

The next meeting for the Coastlands Presbytery is scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 10:30 AM at Camp Johnsonburg (822 Route 519, Johnsonburg, NJ 07825). You are also invited to join us for dinner at 6:00 PM and stay overnight on Friday, September 16th. Carpooling is encouraged.

Online registration will close on Friday, September 1st.



Save the Date

for Our Ice Cream Social!

The Ice Cream Social is set for **Sunday, September 10th at 4 p.m.** The Blawenburg Band will be entertaining us with their wonderful music as we listen, eat, and enjoy one another's company on a September evening.

Plan to bring your chair and your choice of food. Ice cream, toppings, bowls and spoons will be provided. Setting up for the event will be done immediately after church service. There will also be a voluntary donation collection during the Ice Cream Social.



Marrazzo's Receipts

Marrazzo's receipts continue to be collected in boxes in the sanctuary foyer and in the scout hut. They may not be over 6 months old and must be from the Ewing store only.

The proceeds go into the Deacons' Fund, which is used to help individuals, non-profit organizations and, of course, activities and events for our church.



Save These Dates!

- **Saturday, August 26, 10:00 AM:** Volunteers stuff backpacks at Worship space for ESWA
- **Sunday, September 10, 4:00 PM:** Ice Cream Social featuring Blawenburg Band Concert. Free to the community.
- **Sunday, September 24:** Kick-off 2023-2024 vitality efforts with Cafe Conversations after Worship with refreshments.
- **Saturday, September 30:** Church exhibits at The College of New Jersey *Community Fest*

A Big Thank You to All Who Donated to the 2023 Anchor House Ride for Runaways



Thank you to all who donated to my Anchor House ride again this year! Thanks in part to the generosity of members of Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church, riders were able to raise over \$450,000 so far this year! (I exceeded my personal goal of raising over \$1,000 thanks to many of you!).

This year's ride was a bit crazy with all the extreme weather. One of our ride days was cancelled due to the heavy rain and fog and they needed to bus us to our next stop. We had a power outage at our hotel one morning (no coffee or breakfast) and got rained on that day as well! But all in all the ride was still super fun and incredibly enjoyable.

Anchor House supports homeless, abused, runaway and at risk youth, including those who are aging out of the child welfare system, in the Trenton area. Anchor House's programs help connect youth to support systems where they live and help them gain the skills they need to become productive and independent adults. To learn more about this great organization, please visit <https://www.anchorhousenj.org/>

I can't say enough good things about the staff at Anchor House and all the good they do in the community. So thank you again for your continued support this year. I'm always so touched by your generosity.



Many thanks to you for your generosity during July in donating a wide range of personal care items needed by TASK (Trenton Area Soup Kitchen). Your contributions are making a difference in the community.



The Eastern Service Workers Association

We appreciate the dedication of many women who donate their time to help with the behind-the-scenes office work needed by Eastern Service Workers Association (ESWA) in Trenton. They meet twice a month on Tuesdays at 1:30 and welcome new volunteers to join them.

Choosing Between Household Bills or School Clothing and Supplies for Your Kids?

It is a reality for more families than you think!

Help make the beginning of the school year a time of hope and excitement for ESWA members and their children!



They Need:

Backpacks

Spirals

Folders

Crayons

Markers

Scissors- safety and for older kids

3 ring notebooks and lined paper

Summertime...but the livin' ain't easy!

To narrow the year-round gap between incomes and necessary expenditures, ESWA members have built ESWA's budget-saving Benefit Plan II, including distributions of clothing and school supplies for children of enrolled members, so they can use their already stretched funds for food, utilities, medical care and other necessary expenses.

Donations can be dropped off in the Scout Hut until August 24th. You may also make a financial contribution which will help purchase supplies if you are unable. Checks made out to the Ewing/Covenant Presbyterian Church noting in the memo: ESWA school supplies.

EASTERN SERVICE WORKERS ASSOCIATION (ESWA) is a free and voluntary membership association of low-paid service, temporary and domestic workers and others organizing to end poverty conditions. ESWA members enrolled in ESWA's budget-saving Benefit Plan II program can save more than \$500 for their families through our Back-to-School clothing and supply distribution — gaining more stability so we can organize to end the root cause of our poverty conditions.



To keep the prayer list timely, listings will remain for 2 editions of the Newsletter and then be taken off. In the event you desire a listing to run longer, or for a shorter time, please advise the church office.

Prayer Request	Note
All people suffering because of the War in Ukraine	<i>By church family</i>
Brad Shropshire	<i>Brother in-law of Carol & Doug Taylor</i>
Charlie Magee	<i>brother of Judy Carapezza</i>
Dan Hough	<i>By church family</i>
George Renwick	<i>By church family</i>
Gun violence in the US	<i>By church family</i>
Judy Carapezza	<i>By church family</i>
Kevin Hecky	<i>By church family</i>
Maryanne Eleuteri	<i>friend of Judy Carapezza</i>
Rita Freilinghaus	<i>sister of Judy Carapezza</i>
Sylvia Allen	<i>By church family</i>
Alice Haines	<i>By church family</i>



Please keep the Brezak family in your prayers for the loss of Michael Brezak, who passed away 6/30/23.



August Worship Liturgy

10th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 13 – August 6, 10:00am

Rev. Jonathan Shenk, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 32:22-31 and Ps. 17:1-7, 15;

Complementary: Isa. 55:1-5 and Ps. 145:8-9, 14-21; Rom. 9:1-5; Matt. 14:13-21

Hiroshima Day

College and Young Adult Sunday

11th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 14 – August 13, 10:00am

Rev. Tori Paquette, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 37:1-4, 12-28, and Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b;

Complementary: 1 Kgs. 19:9-18 and Ps. 85:8-13; Rom. 10:5-15; Matt. 14:22-33

Youth in the Church and the World Sunday

12th Sunday after Pentecost/ Proper 15 – August 20, 10:00am

Denise Carrell, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Gen. 45:1-15 and Ps. 133;

Complementary: Isa. 56:1, 6-8 and Ps. 67; Rom. 11:1-2a; 29-32; Matt. 15:(10-20) 21-28

13th Sunday after Pentecost/ Proper 16 – August 27, 10:00am

Rev. Mark Van Bruggen, guest preacher

Semicontinuous: Ex. 1:8-2:10 and Ps. 124;

Complementary: Isa. 51:1-6 and Ps. 138; Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20

CURRENT ZOOM LINK FOR WORSHIP at ECPC

Ewing Covenant Presbyterian Church will continue to gather both in person and online .for worship.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83261598872>

For those calling in by phone, call +1 929 205 6099 (same phone number!) and when asked, enter the new Webinar ID 832 6159 8872

Preachers for the month of August

8/6/2023	Jonathan Shenk	Rev. Jonathan Shenk owns and operates Greenleaf Painters, a painting company based in Lawrenceville. Greenleaf has painted several Presbyterian churches in the area, including the interior restoration of the 1867 Sanctuary in Ewing in 2015. He served as Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church's associate pastor from 2000-2005. He currently worships at Nassau Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church. As part of his ongoing community ministry, he is a founding member of the Trenton Microloan Collaborative, which offers zero interest loans and pro bono accounting services to formerly incarcerated entrepreneurs. He lives in Princeton Junction with his wife, Cynthia. They enjoy following their son, Gabriel's band, Sonoa and walking Maggie, their Maltipoo, around the neighborhood.
8/13/2023	Tori Paquette	Tori Paquette is a third-year Master of Divinity student at Princeton Theological Seminary, and has their B.A. in Jewish Studies from Colby College. Tori is passionate about small congregations, Hebrew, and economic justice. They hope to help mainline congregations strengthen relationships with their communities, particularly across lines of social class and religion.
8/20/2023	Denise Olivia Carrell	Denise Carrell is the PhD Program Coordinator at Princeton Theological seminary, her Alma matter, where she graduated in 2023 with a Master of Divinity. While in seminary, Denise was awarded the Earl F Palmer Award for Excellence in Expository Preaching and Teaching the Bible, and the Robert E. Speer Award in College Ministry. In 2018, Denise earned the Certification in Youth and Theology from the Institute for Youth Ministry at PTS. She has served in the church for almost 20 years, and is passionate about the intersection of gender, preaching, and teaching in the context of young adult ministry and beyond. She is an advocate for gender and social justice that transcends the binary. Denise is married to her high school sweetheart and has two incredible children. They live in Ewing, NJ.
8/27/2023	Mark Van Bruggen	Mark lives in New Egypt, NJ with Lisa, his wife of 32 years. Mark and Lisa are the parents of two daughters (Emily & Krista) and have one granddaughter (Karaleigh). His father, Rev. Dr. Vernon Van Bruggen, was a retired Presbyterian minister and served for 18 years as the Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of New Brunswick. From 1978 through 1991, Mark regularly worshipped at Covenant Presbyterian Church where he also became an Elder. After he and his wife married (July 1991 at Covenant Presbyterian Church), they sought a church home and joined the Methodist Church where he remains a member to this day. In 1982, Mark became an Eagle Scout in Troop 15, formerly hosted by Ewing Presbyterian Church. Mark has many fond memories of worshipping at the Ewing and Covenant churches and views every opportunity to preach at Ewing Covenant as a homecoming.

AUGUST 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10am-Care Givers Support Group TBD	2	3	4	5
6 Worship 10am	7 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	8 1:30-3:30 pm ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	9	10	11	12
13 Worship 10am	14 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	15 10am-Mission Sewing Adult Lounge	16	17 11:45-1:30 Lunch Together Lower Lounge	18	19
20 Worship 10am	21 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	22 1:30-3:30 pm ESWA Mission Service Group Lower Lounge	23	24	25	26 10am-2pm Pack ESWA backpacks
27 Worship 10am	28 11:30-1:00 Echo Line Dancing Worship Space	29	30	31		